

BQC - 91 - 050

Date: September 4, 1991

To: Nursing Homes

NH 24

From: Larry Tainter, Director  
Bureau of Quality Assurance

Subject: Waiver of HSS 132.66(1)(d) – Physician Orders

As indicated in BQC memo 91-049, the new federal long-term care regulations which became effective October 1, 1990 removed the restriction prohibiting physician assistants and nurse practitioners from giving medical orders. This change made federal requirements consistent with state regulations, with the exception that HSS 132.66(1)(d) prohibits physician assistants and nurse practitioners from giving orders for skilled care residents for blood, lab, and radiology services.

HSS 132.66(1)(d) reads as follows:

Physician's Orders. No services under this subsection (Laboratory, radiologic, and blood services) may be provided without an order of a physician, except the services provided to intermediate nurse care residents may be provided under the order of a physician or physician extender.

To maintain consistency between the federal and state requirements, we are waiving the restriction prohibiting physician extenders from giving orders for skilled care residents for blood, lab, and radiology services by granting a general statewide waiver of HSS 133.66(1)(d). This waiver applies to all nursing homes (including nursing homes which are licensed only). Orders, however, must remain consistent with the scope of practice of the physician who supervises the physician examiner. (See BQC-91-049).

If you have any questions concerning this waiver, please contact your Field Operations Manager.

LT:BH:bc 9038

cc: -BQC Staff  
-Office of Legal Counsel  
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-Kevin Piper, BHCF Director  
-HCFA, Region V  
-Illinois State Agency  
-Ohio State Agency  
-Michigan State Agency  
-Indiana State Agency  
-Minnesota State Agency  
-WI Coalition for Advocacy

-Service Employees International Union Local 150  
-WI Counties Assn.  
-WI Medical Records Assn. Cons. Committee  
-WI Assoc. of Homes and Services for Aging  
-Comm. on Aging, Ext. Care Fac./HH (SMS)  
-WI Assn. Nursing Homes  
-WI Assn. of Medical Directors  
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